

TOWN OF POMPEY ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

JUNE 1, 2023

POMPEY TOWN HALL (LIVE & VIRTUAL)

7:00 PM

MINUTES

Attendees: Kathy Bertuch, Paulie Drexler, Phil George, John Herrington, Pam O'Malley, Adam Scalisi, Nancy Furdoch (guest)

Welcome

- Guest Nancy Furdoch was welcomed and introduced.
- Pam O'Malley is recording secretary for today's meeting.

April Draft Meeting Minutes

- Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Updates

- Chair Phil George – No report
- Deputy Chair Kathy Bertuch – Renee requested the ECC consider forming a subcommittee to identify and assess a set of criteria resulting in the identification of one or more parcels where solar farms “could” be located without the significant objection of the community. Examples of criteria to be assessed include contiguous acreage, slope, aspect, current land use, soils, neighboring land use, view shed/visual impact, etc. The committee would not consider current access to T3 transmission lines which is the biggest current limitation to siting solar in Pompey. This would be a relatively high-level, general geographic study preparing factual info to be used as background knowledge for decision-making when sites are proposed. We would likely need additional GIS support. The Town has access to GIS data via the County but may not be able to fully support the mapping and analysis the subcommittee may need. Several ECC members have expressed interest in participating on the subcommittee – Stan, Paulie, Adam, Kathy, Phil. Kathy will pull some info together and have it ready for the group to look at towards the end of summer. Adam will speak with ESF GIS faculty to see about a class assisting with this analysis as one of their projects.

New Business

- Summer Meetings – Given summer schedules, the ECC will hold only one meeting over the summer. There will not be a July meeting unless the Town has time sensitive tasks for the ECC.

Continuing Business

- Earth Day Recap
 - The Earth Day Fair went very well and was well attended. Adam counted 170 people coming through the indoor tables. That doesn't include the large number of attendees that came for the recycling/disposal opportunities.
 - The tree seedlings were high quality. We'd like to get them from the same entity again next year. Paulie paid the \$490 bill and is seeking reimbursement. Kathy directed her to submit the bill to the Town to see if it can pay any portion of it, and then ECC will split up the bill remainder among its members.

- Better signage is needed for the future to draw people into the event and into the building.
- We should consider traffic control for next year as there was some back up along the entrance roads.
- The food truck should be positioned closer to the building to generate more business.
- Having the tables inside was beneficial and should be how it is done going forward – people stayed longer and talked at tables.
- Paulie’s baby lamb was a hit – we should have baby animals again next year.
- Seasonal Contests
 - Phil drafted a flyer for the pollinator contest which will be run similar to the snowman contest (submit photos to the Town to be posted on Facebook and voted upon).
 - Everyone liked the draft flyer contents. Nancy Furdoch is a graphic designer and offered to enhance it with designs and get it back to the group within a day. Phil emailed her the draft to rework into an 11x17 poster. Many thanks to Nancy for volunteering to take on this task.
 - All were asked to help promote the contest and circulate the poster.
- Webpage – It’s continually updated thanks to Veronica, but no strategic changes have been initiated.
- Environmental Documents – No update.
- Cell Towers – No update as Stan is not in attendance.
- Climate Change – No update as Martha is not in attendance.

Open Discussion

- Frank Long Road Tier 3 Solar Project – Renee gave the ECC an extra 30 days to get comments to the Town. The Town Planning Board reviewed the Stormwater Plan prepared by Seaboard. Over the next month Seaboard will revise it. ECC is waiting for the Stormwater Plan to be completed in order to review and comment on it.
- No other topics for discussion.

Next Meeting

- To be determined based on need for comments on the Solar Project – ECC’s current plan is to not hold a July meeting unless comments are needed.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Submitted by:

Pam O’Malley
June 9, 2023